

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
GLENDALE FIELD OFFICE**

**Decision Record and
Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
for the
Cow Creek Watershed Project 2002
EA # OR-118-02-012**

I. Decision / FONSI: I have decided to implement the culvert replacement and stabilization project proposed as Alternative 1 in the Cow Creek Watershed Project 2002 environmental assessment (EA) #OR-118-02-012, dated May 21, 2002. I find that this action, with its project design features, will not result in significant impacts on the human environment and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. This decision is consistent with the *Medford District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (RMP, 1995), and amendments.

The approved action consists of replacing damaged and undersized culverts, stream bank stabilization and structure replacement at stream crossings on existing roads. Projects proposed on private lands include roads used by the BLM through reciprocal right-of-way agreements or road use agreements. Project Design Features have been included to minimize or completely avoid impacts to related resources. The specific units and areas are identified in Table 1, below, and on the attached map.

Table 1 Cow Creek Watershed Project 2002

Stream, Road Number and Culvert location.	Structure	Type of action
*1. Russell Creek #1 (Douglas County Road #36) T32S R4W Sec5	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement or weir at outlet
2. Russell Creek #2 #31-4-31 rd. T31S R4W Sec 31	culvert	replacement
3. West Fork Russell Creek #32-4-6.1 rd. T32S R4W Sec6	culvert	replacement
4. Whitehorse Creek #2 #32-4-4 rd. T32S R4W Sec15	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
5. Whitehorse Creek #3 #32-4-22 rd. T32S R4W Sec22	culvert	replacement
6. Whitehorse Creek #4 #32-4-22.1 rd. T32S R4W Sec22	culvert	replacement or weir at outlet
7. Blackhorse Creek #2 #32-4-15 rd. T32S R4W Sec15	culvert	replacement
8. Fizzleout Creek #32-4-21.1 rd. T32S R4W Sec21	culvert	removal
9. Fizzleout Creek #32-4-21 rd. T32S R4W Sec21	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
10. Wildcat Creek #32-5-23 rd. T32S R5W Sec14	culvert	replacement

Stream, Road Number and Culvert location.	Structure	Type of action
11. Quines Creek #3 #32-5-35.2 rd. T32S R5W Sec35	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
12. Quines Creek #4 #32-5-35.2 rd. T32S R5W Sec01	culvert	replacement
*13. Totten Creek #2 #32-6-33 T32S R6W Sec 31 NWNW	culvert	replacement
*14. Totten Creek #3 #32-6-31 T32S R7W Sec 25 SENE	culvert	replacement
15. Woodford Creek #2 #32-5-30 rd. At county or state gravel pile. T32S R5W Sec30	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
*16. Bear Creek #32-5-18 rd. State road off Windy Creek. T32S R6W Sec12	culvert	replacement
17. Snow Creek Tributary #32-3-5 T32SR3W Sec 8/17 border	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
18. McGinnis Creek #31-4-27.3	culvert	replacement
19. Gold Mountain Creek Road (Fish hook) drainage #31-9-22, #31-9-21.1	Non-fisheries culverts and cross drains, approx. 2 miles	Replacement and drainage enhancement, road prism stabilization
*20. McCullough #1 Douglas County Road #27 T32S R6W Sec31	culvert w/ temp bypass	improve by creating boulder cascade
*21. McCullough #2 Superior Lumber Company haul road. T32S R6W Sec31	culvert	replacement
*22. McCullough #5 State haul road. #32-6-17 rd. T32S R6W Sec17	culvert	replacement
*23. Totten Creek #1 Douglas County Road #27 T32S R6W Sec31	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
*24. Rattlesnake #1 Douglas County Road #177 T33S R7W Sec2	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
25. Rattlesnake #2 #33-7-11 rd. T33S R7W Sec11	culvert	weir at outlet
26. Stevens Creek #1 #33-7-2.1 rd. T33S R7W Sec2	culvert	replacement
*27. Panther Butte Creek Douglas County Road #27 T33S R7W Sec2	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
*28. Marion Creek Private T32S R7W Sec33.	culvert	replacement
29. Rattail Creek #33-7-2 rd. T32S R7W Sec19	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
30. Skull Creek immediately above Cow Creek Road Crossing. T32S R7W Sec19	problem : unstable streambanks due to channel down-cutting	add boulders and smaller rock to restore channel elevation and stream bank stability

Stream, Road Number and Culvert location.	Structure	Type of action
*31. Skull Creek #2 #32-8-36 rd. T32S R7W Sec 30 SWSW . Superior Lumber Company	log stringer bridge	replacement with aquatic friendly crossing
32. Bonnie Creek #3 #32-8-35.3 rd. near road 35.2 T32S R8W Sec35	2 culverts	replacement
33. Bonnie Creek #4 #32-8-35.3 rd. near road 35.2 T32S R8W Sec35	culvert	replacement
34. Elk Valley Creek Tributary #31-8-31 rd. T31S R8W Sec13	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
35. Stanley Creek #31-9-19 rd. T31S R9W Sec19	culvert	replacement or removal
36. Wallace Creek #31-9-33.1 rd. T31S R9W Sec33	culvert	replacement
*37. Fortune Branch Creek Douglas County Road #12. T32S R5W Sec20	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
38. Snow Creek #1 #32-3-7 rd. T32S R3W Sec07	culvert	replacement
39. Snow Creek tributary #32-3-7.3 rd. T32S R3W Sec07	culvert	replacement
40. Snow Creek #2 #32-3-5 rd. T32S R3W Sec17	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
41. Snow Creek #3 #32-3-5 rd. T32S R3W Sec19	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
42. Snow Creek #4 #32-3-19.4 rd. T32S R3W Sec19	culvert	replacement
*43. Meadow Creek Douglas County Road T31S R3W Sec31	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
*44. Sugar Creek #1 Douglas County Road T31S R3W Sec31	culvert w/ temp bypass	replacement
45. Cow Creek and West Fork Cow Creek Road Culvert replacement and drainage enhancement.	Non-fisheries culverts	replacement & new cross drain structures approx 30 miles
46. Panther Creek Road Renovation #31-9-27, #31-9-22	Non-fisheries culverts and cross drains	replacement and drainage enhancement approx 2.5 miles

* Private, State or County roads.

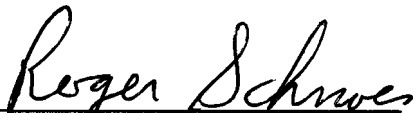
II. Rationale: Implementation of this project would meet its stated purpose and need, which is to provide stream bank stabilization, reduce current and future risk of sedimentation, maintain and restore aquatic and fish passage, and maintain road access to private, public, and recreation areas. Many of the existing culverts in the Cow Creek watershed currently do not currently provide adequate passage for aquatic species and cannot accommodate a 100 year flood event.

The following critical elements of the human environment will not be significantly affected by

this project and have been analyzed in the EA: air quality, areas of critical environmental concern, historical or cultural resources, Native American religious sites, prime or unique farmlands, flood plains, threatened or endangered species, known hazardous waste areas, water quality, wetlands, riparian zones, invasive species, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness and energy development, production or distribution.

Notice of this decision will appear in the Grants Pass Daily Courier and Umpqua Free Press newspapers. The decision will also be posted on the Medford District web site <http://www.or.blm.gov/Medford/>.

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in Title **43** Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part **4**. If an appeal is taken, a written notice of appeal must be filed in the Glendale Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, **3040** Biddle Road, Medford, Oregon, 97504 within **30** days from publication of this decision in the newspaper. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error. If the appellant wishes to file a petition pursuant to **43** CFR 4.21 for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time the appeal is being reviewed by the IBLA, it must accompany the notice of appeal. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the IBLA and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If a stay is requested, the appellant has the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.


Lynda L. Boddy
Field Manager, Glendale Resource Area
Medford District, Bureau of Land Management

6-25-02
Date